

WEST VIRGINIA -ELECTION CONNECTION-

Your source for Election News from Secretary of State Natalie E. Tennant

Issue 29 – April 24, 2012

In this issue ...

- 2012 Primary Countdown
- Final voter registration numbers by party and by county
- Text alerts from the Secretary of State's Office, Election Day webcasts
- Important dates coming up
- Upcoming primary elections
- How you can submit an idea for the Election Connection

2 Weeks Until the May Primary!

On Tuesday, April 24 there will be exactly 2 weeks until the May Primary!

Final voter registration according to SVRS

County	Democrat	Republican	Mountain	No Party Affiliation	Other	Total
BARBOUR	4566	3352	6	1353	155	9432
BERKELEY	22637	23678	141	18624	287	65367
BOONE	14772	2118	8	1728	453	19079
BRAXTON	6025	1535	5	1050	51	8666
BROOKE	10701	3815	10	2931	147	17604
CABELL	30616	18926	67	9736	543	59888
CALHOUN	3405	1197	8	850	157	5617
CLAY	4433	1239	2	631	198	6503
DODDRIDGE	1149	2694	9	758	157	4767
FAYETTE	17496	4900	36	4292	130	26854
GILMER	3156	926	8	496	181	4767
GRANT	1286	5295	4	1476	31	8092
GREENBRIER	13547	6721	19	3714	1109	25110
HAMPSHIRE	5615	4736	26	2771	992	14140
HANCOCK	13500	5910	11	3776	219	23416
HARDY	4659	2160	8	1844	21	8692
HARRISON	23510	12096	35	7741	124	43506
JACKSON	8752	8642	27	3670	321	21412
JEFFERSON	13350	10167	80	10451	747	34795
KANAWHA	69121	37159	151	23949	1584	131964

LEWIS	4182	3231	11	1382	47	8853
LINCOLN	13876	3009	6	2088	204	19183
LOGAN	20449	2401	12	1726	565	25153
MARION	25537	9255	36	5460	1589	41877
MARSHALL	11136	6172	22	4081	413	21824
MASON	9820	6114	13	2568	287	18802
MCDOWELL	12201	1288	8	1844	449	15790
MERCER	20611	9672	55	7605	703	38646
MINERAL	6024	7284	10	3537	174	17029
MINGO	17727	1827	5	1498	427	21484
MONONGALIA	26909	15692	80	11624	681	54986
MONROE	4863	3316	5	1584	65	9833
MORGAN	3414	4918	46	2831	290	11499
NICHOLAS	9839	3720	31	2319	336	16245
OHIO	15647	10020	28	4843	2224	32762
PENDLETON	2889	1549	4	861	199	5502
PLEASANTS	2560	1569	0	850	154	5133
POCAHONTAS	2612	1368	3	1020	10	5013
PRESTON	7878	8330	13	3536	149	19906
PUTNAM	15629	15225	35	6105	480	37474
RALEIGH	29415	14823	39	9940	366	54583
RANDOLPH	10649	4071	21	2834	540	18115
RITCHIE	2015	3746	6	1136	158	7061
ROANE	4384	3383	17	2114	21	9919
SUMMERS	5977	1708	10	1226	168	9089
TAYLOR	5151	3200	4	1438	442	10235
TUCKER	2661	1502	6	673	372	5214
TYLER	2079	2955	5	985	68	6092
UPSHUR	4619	6697	10	2547	35	13908
WAYNE	19643	7107	13	2860	438	30061
WEBSTER	4622	703	8	369	501	6203
WETZEL	8077	2706	9	1535	291	12618
WIRT	2047	1456	5	721	61	4290
WOOD	20872	21521	38	11299	427	54157
WYOMING	12578	3500	11	1682	564	18335
Total	640888	352304	1286	210562	21505	1226545
	52.25%	28.72%	0.10%	17.17%	1.75%	

Text Alerts From The Secretary of State's Office

On Election Day The Secretary of State's Office will again be hosting live webcasts throughout the day. These webcasts will basically be status reports of the

situation statewide – issues, solutions, turnout reports, etc. There will be no set schedule for these webcasts, as it's not known what circumstances will warrant them. However, we will be letting people know a webcast is coming up by sending out text message alerts (you can sign up here: <http://apps.sos.wv.gov/pr/smssubscriptions.aspx>) or by Facebook updates (www.facebook.com/wvsos), and also through conference calls and emails sent to the county clerk addresses. You can watch the webcasts by clicking on the banner that will be at the top of the Secretary of State's website at www.wvsos.com.

Important Dates Coming Up

- **April 23-27:** Pre-Primary Financial Reports Due (Fifteen days or within 4 business days thereafter preceding primary election) Candidates, agents, treasurers and persons making independent expenditures file with the Secretary of State or clerk of the county commission a detailed itemized statement setting forth all financial transactions made subsequent to the last report filed. All legislative candidates file campaign finance forms with Secretary of State's Office regardless of district. (§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5a, CSR 146-3-8).
- **April 23-May 7:** "Last Minute" Independent Expenditures Reported (Expenditure made on or after the fifteenth day but more than twelve hours before the day of any election - report must be received within 24 hours after the expenditure is made) Independent expenditures in the amount of \$1,000 or more for statewide, legislative or multi-county offices or in the amount of \$500 or more for county, single-county or municipal offices which are made must be reported within 24 hours to the Secretary of State or the clerk of the county commission.
- **April 24-May 6:** Public Notice of Time and Place of Test for Automatic Tabulating Equipment (ERM) for Election Day (Not less than 48 hours or more than 2 weeks prior to the testing of such equipment. Test shall be 1 week prior to counting votes) Clerk of the county commission places a Class I-O legal advertisement announcing time and place for testing of automatic tabulating equipment. (§ 3-4a-26, 59-3-1 et. seq.).
- **April 25-May 5:** Early Voting In Person (New language beginning on the thirteenth day and continuing through the Saturday before the Tuesday primary election). Voter may vote an early ballot at the county clerk's office during normal business hours; additionally, early voting must be conducted between 9 a.m. and 5p.m. on the last two Saturdays before the primary election. (§3-3-3).
- **April 30:** Public Notice of Inspection of AutoMark and Ballots for Election Day (Not later than 3 days prior to the date of inspection. Inspection shall be not less than 5 days prior to the election.) Clerk of the county commission places a Class I-O legal advertisement announcing the time and place of inspection of AutoMark. (3-4A-13)
- **May 1:** Public Test of Automatic Tabulation Equipment (ERM) for Election Day (Ivo, 650, M-100) (In counties using automatic tabulating, one week prior

- to the start of the count of the votes) County commission in counties with automatic tabulating equipment and immediately send certified copy of program deck or disk to State Election Commission. Public notice given no more than two weeks and not less than 48 hours before test by publication of Class I-O legal advertisement. (April 24 - May 6, 2012) (§ 3-4A-26, 59-3-1 et. seq.)
- **May 1:** Notification of Ballots and AutoMark Readiness for Election Day (Not later than 7 days before the election) County clerk shall notify the county commission that the ballots and AutoMark are ready for use. (3-4A-13).
 - **May 1-May 7:** Publish Official List of Candidates or Sample Ballot for Election Day (On the last day on which a newspaper is published immediately preceding the primary election) Ballot commissioners publish the official list of candidates and issues, or the sample ballot, as follows: (1) for counties in which two or more qualified newspapers publish a daily newspaper, publish as Class I-O legal advertisement in the two qualified daily newspapers of different political parties within the county having the largest circulation; (2) for counties having no more than one daily newspaper, or having only one or more qualified weekly newspapers, publish as Class I legal advertisement in qualified newspaper having largest circulation. Counties may choose to publish the sample ballot for a second time instead of the official list. (§ 3-5-10, 59-3-1 et. seq.)
 - **May 1-May 7:** Instructional Program Make-Up Session (Within last seven days before election) Clerk of the county commission conducts make-up session for election officials unable to attend regular session. (§ 3-1-46(c), 3-4-13, 3-4A-14)
 - **May 1 - Noon, May 8:** Request Emergency Medical Absentee Ballot (No earlier than the seventh day preceding the election and no later than noon of election day) Period in which an eligible person (a member of said voter's immediate family or hospital personnel) may request an emergency absent voter ballot. Eligible persons include: (1) a voter who, on election day, is in the hospital or other duly licensed health care facility within the county of their residence (or, provided the county commission has adopted an extension of service, to a health care facility in an adjacent county or within 35 miles of the county seat); or (2) a voter who resides for less than 30 days prior to the election in a nursing home within the county, provided the county commission has adopted an extension of service to those facilities.
 - **May 2 (deadline):** Deadline for Absentee by Mail Application (Not later than the sixth day preceding the election) Last day to receive application for absentee ballot by mail. Ballot shall be mailed no later than following day. (§ 3-3-5(b)(1))
 - **May 3:** Public Inspection of Vote Recording Devices and Ballots AutoMark for Election Day (Five days prior to the election) County commissioners and ballot commissioners convene to inspect the devices and the ballots to determine if all applicable provisions of law are met. (3-4A-13)

- **May 5 (deadline):** Deadline for Early Voting in Person (Not later than the Saturday before the Tuesday primary election from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Last day to vote an early ballot in person in the county clerk's office. (§ 3-3-3)
- **May 7 (deadline):** Deadline to Hand-Deliver Absentee Ballot to the Clerk's Office (No later than the day preceding the election) Last day for county clerk to accept hand delivered absentee ballot by mail: Provided, that no person may personally deliver more than two absentee ballots in any election. (§ 3-3-5(k))
- **May 7 (deadline):** Election Commissioners Receive Election Supplies (Not later than one day before primary election) Last day on which election commissioner(s) of each precinct, as designated by ballot commissioners, shall receive necessary election supplies from county clerk. (§ 3-1-24, 3-4-12, 3-4A-13(f), 3-5-14)
- **May 7:** Failure to Pick Up Supplies, Delivery Thereof (By close of offices of clerk on the day prior to primary election) Board of ballot commissioners, or chairman thereof, forthwith dispatches, by special messenger, election supplies to any election commissioner who has failed to pick up supplies by designated time. (§ 3-1-25, 3-4-12a, 3-4A-13a)
- **May 8, PRIMARY ELECTION DAY:** (Second Tuesday in May of even years) Polls open 6:30 a.m. Polls close 7:30 p.m. (§ 3-1-31, 3-5-1)
 - In counties using electronic voting systems, clerk of county commission must deliver vote recording devices to polling places not less than one hour prior to polls opening. (§ 3-4-15, 3-4A-16)
 - If appointed election official fails to appear at polling place by 5:45 a.m., election officials shall contact county clerk for assistance in filling vacancy. (§ 3-1-30(j))
 - Upon request by or for persons eligible to vote emergency absentee voter's ballot made no later than noon of election day, emergency absentee voting commissioners deliver application and ballot to voter in hospital (or nursing home if authorized). (§ 3-3-5c)
 - A voter whose registration record lists one address but has since moved to another within the county may update the registration at the polling place and shall vote in the precinct of current residence using a provisional ballot. (§ 3-2-22(a)(6), 3-2-31(b))
 - A voter whose legal name has changed may update the registration by filing an affidavit of change of legal name at the polling place on election day. (§ 3-2-22(d)(2))
 - Before closing of polls (7:30 p.m.), clerk, or a messenger, delivers to precincts all absent voters' ballots received for paper ballot systems, that had not been picked up by the election commissioner. (§ 3-3-7)
- **May 8:** Post Precinct Returns (In counties using paper ballots, when results for the precinct are received) The precinct returns shall be posted on the outside of the front door of the polling place. (§ 3-5-15(c))

Upcoming Presidential Primary Elections and Caucuses

- April 24
 - o Connecticut Primary (28)
 - o Delaware Primary (17)
 - o New York Primary (95)
 - o Pennsylvania Primary (72)
 - o Rhode Island Primary (19)
- May 8
 - o Indiana Primary (46)
 - o North Carolina Primary (55)
 - o West Virginia Primary (31)
- May 15
 - o Nebraska Primary (35)
 - o Oregon Primary (28)
- May 22
 - o Arkansas Primary (36)
 - o Kentucky Primary (45)
- May 29
 - o Texas Primary (155)
- June 5
 - o California Primary (172)
 - o Montana Primary (26)
 - o New Jersey Primary (50)
 - o New Mexico Primary (23)
 - o South Dakota Primary (28)
- June 26
 - o Utah Primary (40)

Have an idea?

Is there something that you want to see addressed in the Election Connection? The goal of this newsletter is to keep everyone up to date about challenges facing election officials in West Virginia and to inform everyone about best practices that are being put into place. If you have an idea for a topic, have a question, or if you think there is a subject that election officials around the state would be interested in, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary of State's Office. You can contact the Elections Division by email at elections@wvsos.com or (304) 558-6000 or Jake Glance directly at jglance@wvsos.com. Your input is appreciated.